

REMARKS

The final Office Action dated May 16, 2006 has been received and its contents carefully studied. Claims 1-41 are pending, and all claims stand rejected, including the independent claims 1, 15, 23, and 36. Claim 1 is for a method, claim 15 is for a system, claim 23 is for a mobile device, and claim 36 is for software.

Independent claims 15 and 36 are again rejected as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) by *Kagehiro* (U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0044068). However, independent claims 1 and 23 are no longer rejected on that basis, and instead claims 1 and 23 are now rejected as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) from *Kagehiro* in view of the article by *Clark et al* that was previously cited against various dependent claims.

New claims 42 and 43 are similar to amended claims 23 and 24, except that the new claims are in means plus function format.

Amendment of Present Claim 1

Claim 1 is now amended by including some of the limitations of claim 8, as well as further limitations. It is respectfully believed that these amendments clearly overcome the rejections, while also rendering claim 1 more clear and concise.

All of the present amendments are fully supported by the specification as originally filed. For example, in the application as originally filed, page 8, line 13 discusses “attempting” to extract the URL. At page 8, lines 19-28 of the application there is discussion of the “results” of the extraction. Also in the application as originally filed, at page 5, lines 5-6, there is discussion of zooming in on the URL after the URL is seen.

Amended Claim 1 Is Not Obvious From *Kagehiro* in View of *Clark*

The Office Action acknowledges at page 13, first full paragraph, that *Kagehiro* does not disclose a zooming step before the extracting step. Therefore, the Office Action relies upon *Clark*’s page 450, Introduction, second column, last paragraph: “We have directed...”

Applicant has carefully studied this portion of *Clark*, and respectfully submits that it is very different from the present claimed invention. Present amended claim 1 describes locating and recognizing glyphs of a URL, then zooming, and then extracting remaining parts of the URL. In contrast, *Clark* explains that he will “zoom in on the text in order to read it,” so that prior to zooming there has been no ability to read anything in *Clark*. *Clark* explicitly says that prior to zooming there has been no finding or recovering of “single words or lines.” That is very different from present claim 1, wherein the glyphs “www” or “http” are located and recognized *before* zooming.

Brief Summary of the Primary Reference

The Office Action refers to *Kagehiro*, where an article of manufacture for image capturing, image recognition, and retrieval of information based on the recognized image is presented. *Kagehiro* relies upon a separate server from the mobile device in order to recognize a URL within the resulting image (see paragraph 30). Furthermore, *Kagehiro* relies upon the user to select portions of the image results to send to the server for information retrieval (see paragraph 25). As a result, *Kagehiro* presents additional steps that the present invention eliminates, when a URL is used to communicate with the internet. The present invention accomplishes this by using a two-part process of finding the standardized URL characters (i.e. glyphs), and thereafter extracting remaining parts of the URL.

Further Reasons Why Amended Claim 1 is not Suggested by *Kagehiro* and *Clark*

The camera unit of present claim 1 views a scene that contains a written URL, then converts the visual image to electronic format, locates a set of URL glyphs (e.g. “www”) in the electronic image, zooms in on the located URL, and then extracts the rest of the URL. The extracted URL is used to access a web site. This locating process is entirely different from *Kagehiro*, because *Kagehiro* requires various manual steps by the user. Paragraph 25 of *Kagehiro* describes the need for a user to move a “marker” to a URL character line, and

subsequently the user must confirm that the URL is within a “rectangle strip.” All of this teaches away from the present claimed invention.

The final Office Action acknowledges at page 7, last full paragraph, that *Kagehiro* does not teach having a mobile terminal perform the locating step of present claim 1. Instead, the Office Action points to page 450, Introduction, fourth and last paragraphs of *Clark*. Although those paragraphs of *Clark* do discuss neural networks, robots, and computer controlled cameras, there is no suggestion in those paragraphs to use those automated devices to locate and recognize any particular characters prior to zooming in on the text, as presently claimed. On the contrary, *Clark* explicitly teaches away from doing so: “[w]e have directed our work to finding and recovering paragraphs and blocks of text rather than single words or lines.”

The present invention is highly advantageous as compared to these two cited references, because the present claimed invention initially looks for glyphs characteristic of a URL, rather than looking more generally for paragraphs and block of text. Therefore, the present claimed invention will need to process much less data, and will zoom in much more precisely, than the cited art.

Also, *Kagehiro* discusses character line extraction and recognition, but this is entirely different from present claim 1. Characters of the visual image produced on the display in *Kagehiro* are only recognized as characters and nothing more. The present claim 1 includes an additional locating and recognizing step in which “glyphs” are recognized as a URL, based on a standardized set of URL characters. In *Kagehiro* the operator must indicate which portion of the captured image is to be sent to a server for further processing.

In the “character recognition” described by *Kagehiro*, the device only recognizes whether or not a particular part of the image is an alpha-numeric symbol. In present claim 1, however, the URL is recognized based on a particular standardized set of URL characters. The system in *Kagehiro* does not make any effort to locate URLs specifically; it is up to the user to point toward the portion of the image that may contain a URL of interest using the marker (202) and rectangular strip (203). Likewise, *Clark* does not suggest any automated way to locate and recognize a URL prior to zooming.

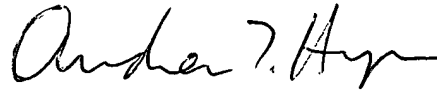
Kagehiro further differs from amended claim 1, because *Kagehiro*'s character line is not recognized as a URL until it is sent to a network computer for processing (see Fig. 5). *Kagehiro* does refer to character line recognition and character line extraction performed on a URL character line. (Fig. 1 & 2; paragraph 23; paragraph 25). However, Figure 2 must be read in light of Figure 5, which demonstrates that the selected characters are not recognized as a URL until sent to the server. Unlike amended claim 1, there is no recognition of whether a set of glyphs is a URL until the captured image is sent to a server for processing (see Fig. 5; paragraph 30: "The character line transmitted to the computer is received by a computer or a server...Whether the character line is a URL address or other character line is distinguished in a step."). The present claim 1 is directed to locating and recognizing a URL from an electronic image by a mobile device, rather than by a web server.

Regarding present independent claims 15, 23, and 36 (system, mobile device, and software, respectively), all of the explanations provided above are applicable to those claims as well. Of course, since independent claims 1, 15, 23, and 26 are not anticipated or suggested by *Kagehiro* and/or *Clark*, none of the dependent claims are anticipated or suggested by those references either.

CONCLUSION

It is earnestly requested that the application be reconsidered, and that the four amended independent claims (which are similar to each other) be allowed, as well as the claims depending therefrom. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner please contact Applicant's attorney by telephone, if doing so might facilitate or expedite examination of the present application. It is submitted that early passage of the present claims to issuance would be appropriate according to the relevant statutes and regulations, in view of the novel and useful invention claimed by the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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